

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 116674

FOLLOWING REPEAT DAKAR 3305 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ABU DHABI
ABIDJAN ALGIERS AMMAN ANKARA ATHENS BAGHDAD BANGKOK BMAKO
BANJUL BISSAU CAIRO CONAKRY DAMASCUS Dacca DJIBOUTI FREETOWN
GENEVA JAKARTA JIDDA KHARTOUM KINSHASA KUWAIT KUALA LUMPUR
ISLAMABAD LAGOS LIBREVILLE MANAMA MOGADISCIO NDJAMENA NIAMEY
NOUAKCHOTT NAIROBI NEW DELHI OUAGADOUGOU PARIS RABAT SANA
SINGAPORE TEHRAN TEL AVIV TRIPOLI TUNIS USUN NEW YORK
YAOUNDE DATED MAY 04:

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 3305

V
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PORG, SG
SUBJECT: DAKAR ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE - III

REF: (A) DAKAR 3074, (B) DAKAR 3213

1. SUMMARY: ISLAMIC CONFERENCE ADJOURNED WITHOUT
INCIDENT BUT FAR BEHIND SCHEDULE ON APRIL 29 AFTER PASSING
RESOLUTIONS WHICH URGE EXTRA-AFRICAN POWERS NOT TO
INTERFERE IN HORN, CALL FOR SECURITY COUNCIL
SESSION TO ENSURE TOTAL ISRAELI RETREAT FROM OCCUPIED
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TERRITORIES, REPORTEDLY CONDEMN US SPONSORSHIP OF
"BILATERAL SOLUTIONS" IN MIDDLE EAST, SUPPORT TURK
CYPRIOT CALL FOR INTER-COMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS AND URGE
SUPPORT FOR MORO LIBERATION FRONT IN PHILIPPINES.
AMONG ISSUES WHICH DID NOT RECEIVE SIGNIFICANT
ATTENTION IN PLENARY WERE PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO'S PLIGHT,
WESTERN SAHARA AND THAI MUSLIM SEPARATISTS. "PROGRESSIVE"
ARABS SUCCESSFULLY CONCENTRATED ON ISOLATION OF EGYPT
TO EXCLUSION OF ALL OTHER OBJECTIVES. SENEGAL AND OTHER
MODERATES TRIED TO MAXIMIZE CONCENTRATION ON ECONOMIC

COOPERATION. SENEGALESE CONFERENCE PRESIDENT ASSERTED THAT MEETING SHOWED ISLAMIC CONFERENCE HAD BECOME POLITICAL FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH, BUT AMERICAN JOURNALISTS WERE UNINTERESTED, EGYPTIANS WERE DISTRESSED THAT CONFERENCE HAD SLIGHTED SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES, AND ALGERIAN DISMISSED WHOLE AFFAIR AS OF "ZERO SIGNIFICANCE." DESPITE SENEGAL'S BEST EFFORTS AND REPORTED SAUDI BANKROLLING, CONFERENCE EXPERIENCED SOME ADMINISTRATIVE SNAFUS CULMINATING IN POWER FAILURE DURING FINAL SESSION. END SUMMARY.

2. NINTH ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE ADJOURNED IN SMALL HOURS OF MORNING APRIL 29, AFTER DISAGREEMENT OVER CONTENTIOUS POLITICAL RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER PROBLEMS HELD UP CLOSING SESSION FOR OVER SIX HOURS. DELEGATES DEPARTED WITHOUT WAITING FOR COPIES OF FINAL CONFERENCE DOCUMENT, AND WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED SOME DIFFERENCES OF OPINION AMONG PARTICIPANTS AS TO FINAL FORM TAKEN BY RESOLUTIONS DURING EXHAUSTED, LAST-MINUTE DELIBERATIONS. BANGLADESH EMBASSY, WHICH SERVED AS RAPPORTEUR FOR CONFERENCE, ADVISES THAT 40-PAGE FINAL COMMUNIQUE PLUS ANNEXES HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO ISLAMIC SECRETARIAT IN CONFIDENTIAL

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JIDDA FOR REVIEW AND DISTRIBUTION TO MEMBER STATES. IN MEANTIME, PARTICIPANTS HAVE CONFIRMED GENERAL LINES OF MAJOR RESOLUTIONS AS REPORTED IN LOCAL MEDIA. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW.

3. SOMALI-SPONSORED MEASURE EXPRESSED CONFERENCE'S CONCERN OVER SITUATION IN AFRICAN HORN AND CALLED ON EXTRA-AFRICAN POWERS GENERALLY TO ABSTAIN FROM ANY ACT OF INTERFERENCE AND INTERVENTION IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF AFRICAN PEOPLES IN THE HOPE THAT THIS WOULD PERMIT THE OAU TO HELP RESOLVE THE CONFLICT. (SOMALI AMBASSADOR INDICATES THAT HIS DELEGATION WAS GIVEN FREE HAND ON HORN, PROVIDED THAT LANGUAGE OF RESOLUTION WAS KEPT MODERATE AND NO NAMES WERE MENTIONED; EXPRESSION BY CONCERN WAS SUBSTITUTED FOR WORD "CONDEMN" IN ORIGINAL SOMALI DRAFT.) CONFERENCE CALLED ON MEMBERS TO GIVE FINANCIAL AID TO DJIBOUTI AND COMORO ISLANDS AND ASKED PRESIDENT (BABACAR BA OF SENEGAL) TO MAKE CONTACT WITH FRANCE TO BEGIN NEGOTIATING PROCESS BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES IN RESPECT FOR NATIONAL UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE COMOROS.

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4. FINAL RESOLUTION ON MIDDLE EAST AFFIRMS THAT PEACE DEPENDS ON TOTAL AND UNCONDITIONAL ISRAELI RETREAT FROM ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, AND RECOVERY AND EXERCISE OF INALIENABLE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

RESOLUTION CONDEMSN ISRAEL FOR ITS AGGRESSION AND
OCCUPATION OF SOUTH LEBANON, ITS COLLUSION WITH SOUTH
AFRICA, AND OCCUPIED TERRITORIES POLICY. MEMBER
STATES ARE INVITED TO BOYCOTT ISRAEL AND CALL FOR
CONVOCATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF SECURITY COUNCIL
WITH A VIEW TOWARD EFFICACIOUS METHODS TO ENSURE THE
TOTAL AND UNCONDITIONAL RETREAT OF ISRAEL FROM ALL
OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

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5. TEXT OF PALESTINIAN RESOLUTION WHICH WE ARE TOLD
WAS APPROVED BY CONFERENCE REAFFIRMS DUTY OF SUPPORT
FOR EFFORTS OF PALESTINE PEOPLE UNDER PLO'S LEADERSHIP
"TO REGAIN THEIR LANDS AND TO ESTABLISH THEIR INALIENABLE
NATIONAL RIGHTS," NOTES THAT US "THREAT TO VETO ANY
DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE NATIONAL AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS
OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL...
GIVES GREATER URGENCY TO THE NEED TO CHANGE THE UN
CHARTER ESPECIALLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE RIGHT OF
VETO," HAILS PALESTINIANS UNDER PLO LEADERSHIP FOR
RESISTANCE TO ISRAELI INVASION OF SOUTHERN LEBANON,
CALLS ON MEMBER STATES TO SUPPORT PALESTINIANS IN
"LEGITIMATE STRUGGLE AGAINST ZIONIST AND RACIST
COLONIALISM IN ORDER TO REGAIN THEIR NATIONAL AND
INALIENABLE RIGHTS," CONDEMNS "ALL LIQUIDATIONIST AND
DEFEATIST ATTEMPTS SPONSORED BY THE UNITED STATES TO
SERVE ITS INTRDESTS IN THE AREA (OR) SAFEGUARD THE
ZIONIST RACIST PRESENCE IN OCCUPIED PALESTINE EITHER
THROUGH SPONSORING BILATERAL SOLUTIONS" OR BYPASSING
THE PALESTINE PROBLEM, REAFFIRMS PLO'S RIGHT AS "SOLE
LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINIAN
PEOPLE TO WORK FOR THE REJECTION OF ALL FORMS OF
DEFEATIST AMERICAN SETTLEMENTS AND LIQUIDATIONIST
SCHEMES," CALLS ON THE US TO RECOGNIZE THE PLO, REAFFIRMS
PLO'S RIGHT TO INDEPENDENT AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION IN
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES DEALING WITH PALESTINE
PROBLEM AND ARAB-ZIONIST CONFLICT, CONDEMNS ISRAEL'S
AGGRESSION AND OCCUPATION OF SOUTHERN LEBANON, CONDEMNS
ALL STATES THAT SUPPORT ISRAEL "MILITARILY, ECONOMICALLY
OR IN TERMS OF MANPOWER" AND CALLS ON MEMBER STATES
TO WORK FOR SEVERE SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL, "INCLUDING
EXPULSION FROM THE U.N." AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORA.
EGYPT AND CHAD REGISTERED RESERVATIONS ON THIS RESOLUTION.
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6. ON CYPRUS, CONFERENCE SALUTED EFFORTS OF TURK
CYPRIOT COMMUNITY TO RESUME INTER-COMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS.
TURKISH AMBASSADOR TELLS US HIS DELEGATION RESISTED
AFRICAN EFFORTS TO AMEND TURKISH-DRAFTED RESOLUTION,

SUCCESSFULLY INSISTING THAT ITEM BE APPROVED INTACT
(ALTHOUGH THERE IS CONCERN THAT SOME POST FACTO
RESERVATIONS MIGHT BE RECORDED).

7. NOTING THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION OF MUSLIMS IN
THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES FACED WITH RESUMPTION OF
HOSTILITIES WITH INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED MEANS,
CONFERENCE STATED THAT IT CONSIDERED THE MORO NATIONAL
LIBERATION FRONT AS REPRESENTATIVE OF MUSLIMS OF SOUTHERN
PHILIPPINES, AND INVITED MEMBER STATES TO EXTEND NORMAL
AND MATERIAL SUPPORT TO FRONT FOR INSTITUTION OF INTERNAL
AUTONOMY FOR MUSLIM COMMUNITY. ONE SOURCE INDICATES
THAT THREATENED RESERVATIONS BY MALAYSIA, INDONESIA AND
POSSIBLY SAUDI ARABIA AND GABON ON PHILIPPINES RESOLUTION
WERE AVOIDED BY SUBSTITUTING WORD "MASSACRES" IN LIEU
OF REFERENCE TO "ACTS OF EXTERMINATION" IN PHILIPPINES
CONTAINED IN ORIGINAL DRAFT RESOLUTION (REF B).
(MISUARI WAS ACTIVE MORO REPRESENTATIVE, WITH SALAMAT
NOT PRESENT SO FAR AS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ESTABLISH.)

8. REPRESENTATIVE OF PATANI UNITED LIBERATION ORGANIZATION
ARRIVED AT CONCLUSION OF CONFERENCE WITH MAPS, CRUDE
PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY "PATANI INDEPENDENT NEWS
AGENCY--PINA," DAMASCUS, AND PRESENTATION IN THREE
LANGUAGES SEEKING OBSERVER STATUS AND ASKING CONFERENCE
TO PROVIDE MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT AND TAKE INTEREST
IN "OUR OPPRESSED PEOPLE WHO STRUGGLE BRAVELY TO GET
RID OF THAI OCCUPATION AND TO OBTAIN THERE (SIC) LEGAL
NATIONAL RIGHTS IN VIEW OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN
INDEPENDENT PATANI STATE." DESPITE THIS INITIATIVE,
WE ARE TOLD CONFERENCE DID NOT DISCUSS THAI MUSLIMS IN
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PLENARY, ALTHOUGH, ON GENERAL QUESTION OF MUSLIM
MINORITIES, CONFERENCE APPROVED CREATION IN ORGANIZATION'S
GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF NEW DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC
COMMUNITIES IN NON-MEMBER STATES.

9. CONFERENCE REITERATED ITS ENGAGEMENT TO ELIMINATE
ALL FORMS OF COLONIALISM, APARTHEID AND DISCRIMINATION,
ITS CONDEMNATION OF ZIONISM AND OPPRESSIVE ACTIONS AGAINST
THE PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. CONFERENCE REAFFIRMED
ITS CONTINUED MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT INTENDED TO
PERMIT MOZAMBIQUE TO TRIUMPH OVER DIFFICULTIES ARISING
OUT OF THE APPLICATIONS OF SANCTIONS AGAINST RACIST
RHODESIAN REGIME. WE HAVE NOT YET UNCOVERED ANY
REFERENCES IN RESOLUTIONS TO ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN ON
RHODESIA OR WESTERN CONTACT GROUP EFFORTS ON NAMIBIA,
THOUGH IMPORTANCE OF EXPANDING RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT TO
INCLUDE EXTERNAL FACTIONS WAS DISCUSSED IN PLENARY.

10. CONFERENCE CALLED FOR PURSUIT OF EFFORTS TO CREATE

DENUCLEARIZED ZONES IN AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA, AND, WE ARE TOLD, CALLED FOR ABOLITION OF VETO RIGHT IN SECURITY COUNCIL.

11. PAKISTAN CHARGE ASSURED EMBOFF THAT PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO'S STATUS WAS "INTERNAL MATTER" WHICH HAD NOT COME UP DURING CONFERENCE, BUT ANOTHER SOURCE INDICATES THAT PLO MADE REFERENCE TO BHUTTO IN ITS INTERVENTION.

12. PAKISTANI ALSO INSISTED THAT "OBSERVER" STATUS OF ZAIRE AMBASSADOR (REF B) HAD ENCOUNTERED MUCH OPPOSITION AND ZAIRE WOULD NEVER BE IN THAT POSITION AGAIN. HE ATTRIBUTED ZAIRE'S OBSERVER ACCREDITATION TO SENEGAL (WHICH WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH ROUTINE SENEGALESE CONFIDENTIAL

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POLICY OF PUTTING ZAIRE FORWARD WHENEVER POSSIBLE AS COUNTERWEIGHT TO NIGERIA WHICH, AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE, WAS ONLY OTHER FULL-FLEDGED STATE WITH OBSERVER STATUS).

13. PREVIOUS CABLES HAVE REPORTED EMPHASIS DURING CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION. ONE SOURCE SAYS THIS WAS CONSCIOUS STRATEGY OF SENEGAL, PAKISTAN AND TURKEY, TO DEFLECT ATTENTION FROM DIVISIVE POLITICAL QUESTIONS AND MAINTAIN PRESSURE ON OIL EXPORTERS TO FUND JOINT MUSLIM UNDERTAKINGS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF VARIOUS ISLAMIC TRAINING AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS IN ANKARA, DACCA, NIAMEY AND UGANDA (SEE REF B) WERE APPROVED, WITH BULK OF FINANCING EXPECTED FROM SAUDI ARABIA. 1978-79 BUDGET OF \$5 MILLION WAS APPROVED FOR GENERAL SECRETARIAT, BUT PRESS INDICATES UAE WAS ONLY COUNTRY TO ANNOUNCE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND, WHOSE INSUFFICIENT RESOURCES WERE WIDELY LAMENTED DURING CONFERENCE.

14. CONFERENCE AGREED ON MOROCCO AS SITE FOR NEXT YEAR'S MINISTERIAL AND REPORTEDLY PICKED JIDDA AS VENUE FOR 1980 SUMMIT-LEVEL MEETING.

15. PRINCIPAL FIREWORKS WERE BETWEEN LIBYANS AND PLO ON ONE HAND AND EGYPT ON THE OTHER, ALTHOUGH SOME PARTICIPANTS INSIST THAT ATMOSPHERE MORE FRATERNAL THAN THEY HAD ANTICIPATED. ACCORDING TO SOMALI AMBASSADOR, SOLE OBJECTIVE OF "PROGRESSIVE" ARABS (LIBYA, ALGERIA, SYM PLO, YEMEN) WAS TO ISOLATE EGYPT ON PALESTINE QUESTION; THEY WERE UNINTERESTED IN ANY OTHER PROBLEM. AS NOTED ABOVE, THEY SUCCEEDED IN THIS OBJECTIVE BY CRITICIZING "BILATERAL" APPROACH SPONSORED BY UNITED STATES, RATHER THAN ATTACKING FELLOW ISLAMIC STATE BY NAME. ONE SOURCE INDICATES EGYPTIAN DELEGATE ROSE IN ANGER AT ONE POINT TO PROTEST AGAINST INSULTS BEING MADE OF PRESIDENT SADAT, BUT "PROGRESSIVE" STATES WERE ABLE TO POINT OUT THAT EOTTOTTT

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EGYPT HAD NOT EVEN BEEN MENTIONED; THIS LEFT SOME DELEGATION (SUCH AS PAKISTANIS) PERSUADED THAT EGYPTIANS HAD ONLY DRAMATIZED THEIR ISOLATION BY SEPELLING OUT EXPLICITLY ATTACKS WHICH WERE INDIRECT AND VEIGKD I RESOLUTION TEXTS. THERE, HOWEVER, AMPLE DIRECT PROVOCATIONS. LIBYA, WHICH, ALONG WITH BANGLADESH, WAS ADDED TO JERUSALEM COMMITTEE, SOUGHT UNSUCCESSFULLY TO HAVE EGYPT REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE. AT DAKAR PRESS CONFERENCE, PLO DELEGATION LEADER FAROUK KADDOUMI CALLED ON PRESIDENT SADAT PUBLICLY TO DECLARE HIS "CAPITULATIONIST" PEACE INITIATIVE A FAILURE. ALGERIANS, ON OTHER HAND, WERE RELATIVELY QUIET (AND ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR BLITHELY ASSURED US THAT HIS DELEGATION AND SENEGALESE WERE LEADING MODERATING FORCES AT CONFERENCE); MOROCCANS GLOATED THAT ALGERIANS WERE UNABLE TO INTRODUCE WESTERN SAHARA QUESTION BECAUSE OF ISOLATION THEY WOULD HAVE ENCOUNTERED. LARGE SAUDI CONTINGENT ALSO AMONG MORE ACTIVE DELEGATIONS, AS REPORTED REF B, PARTICULARLY BEHIND SCENES.

16. PRESIDENT SENGHOR DID SQUEEZE IN TWO MEETINGS AFTER HIS RETURN FROM IRAN AT CONCLUSION ON CONFERENCE: WITH ALI ABDESSALAM TREIKI, LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTER (CONFERENCE'S OUTGOING PRESIDENT) AND MUHAMMED HAFIZ GHANIM, EGYPTIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER. FURTHER COMMENT ON SUBSTANCE OF THESE MEETINGS BEING PROVIDED SEPTTEL.

17. SENEGALESE FOREIGN MINISTER BABACAR BA, WHO PRESIDED OVER MEETING, PRONOUNCED IT A "GRAND SUCCESS" AND ASSERTED THAT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE HAD BECOME "A CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL FORCE... WHICH THE WORLD MUST HENCEFORTH TAKE INTO ACCOUNT." ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT WAS PROVIDED BY ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR WHO PRIVATELY

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SUMMED UP CONFERENCE AS OF "ZERO SIGNIFICANCE". (FOR THEIR PART, AMERICAN JOURNALISTS WHO PASSED THROUGH DAKAR DURING CONFERENCE DISPLAYED STRIKING DISINTEREST IN ITS PROCEEDINGS.) MOST DELEGATES TOOK POSITION SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THESE EXTREMES. TURKISH AMBASSADOR SAID HIS COUNTRY SEES ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AS CONVENIENT BRIDGE TO THIRD WORLD AND MARGINALLY USEFUL MECHANISM FOR INDUCING NOT INSIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF STATES TO GO ON RECORD ON CYPRUS PROBLEM. (HE IS ESPECIALLY PLEASED WITH RAPPORT WHICH DEVELOPED BETWEEN NEW TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER AND SENEGALESE PRIME MINISTER ABDOU DIOUF IN THEIR FIRST MEETING.) AFTER SOME HESITATION, EGYPTIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PUBLICLY TERMED OVERALL

CONFERENCE RESULTS "CONVENABLE," BUT CHIDED THAT "WE HAVEN'T YET ATTACKED OUR TRUE PROBLEMS," URGING THAT NEXT CONFERENCE CONCENTRATE ON "MARRIAGE" BETWEEN RELIGION AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SO MUSLIM COUNTRIES COULD MAKE CONTRIBUTION IN THIS AREA; HE ALSO RECOMMENDED EXPERT STUDY AND ADVICE ON UPGRADING PRESENT "SPORADIC AND WEAK" ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN MUSLIM STATES.

18. SENEGAL LEFT MIXED IMPRESSION ON CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS. EGYPTIAN SPOKESMAN PRAISED "ACTIVITY, COURAGE, AND SINCERITY" OF "SENEGALESE FRIENDS" WHO HEADED CONFERENCE COMMITTEES, BUT OTHER DELEGATES COMPLAINED OF DISORGANIZATION AND CONFUSION DURING OPENING DAYS, AND OFFICIALS OF ISLAMIC SECRETARIAT WERE PRIVATELY CRITICAL OF SENEGALESE INITIATIVE AND SUPPORT. LAST STRAW WAS ELECTRICAL OUTAGE WHICH PLUNGED MARATHON FINAL SESSION INTO HALF-HOUR OF DARKNESS AND SILENCE AS MIDNIGHT APPROACHED APRIL 28. FLIGHTS TO LONDON AND PARIS WERE HELD UP AT DAKAR AIRPORT FOR MASS EXODUS OF EXHAUSTED CONFERENCE DELEGATES. LIVES OF LOCAL RESIDENTS WERE CHAOTICALLY DISRUPTED DURING ENTIRE CONFERENCE BY UNPREDICTABLE CLOSURES OF MAJOR ARTERIES AT HEIGHT OF CONFIDENTIAL

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RUSH HOUR FOR EXCLUSIVE USE BY VISITING VIPS.

19. SEVERAL DELEGATES ASSURED US THAT SAUDIS WERE PICKING UP TAB FOR CONFERENCE COSTS TO TUNE OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS; DAKAR PRESS COMMENTED WAGGISHLY ON "ODOR OF PETRO-DOLLARS" IN CONFERENCE DINING HALL.

20. EMBASSY IS POUCHING NUMEROUS CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS TO AF/W. COHEN UNQTE VANCE

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